

CLAIMS:

What is claimed is:

1. An appetite suppression device for providing electro-acupuncture to the tragus regions of
5 a human, said appetite suppression device comprising:

a controller adapted to produce an electrical signal;

a plurality of electrodes in electrical communication with said controller, said electrodes
being adapted to deliver said signal to the tragus regions of the human.

2. The appetite suppression device as recited in claim 1, wherein said electrical signal is
biphasic.

3. The appetite suppression device as recited in claim 2, wherein said electrodes are
incorporated into a headset.

4. The appetite suppression device as recited in claim 3, wherein said headset is adjustable
in size.

5. The appetite suppression device as recited in claim 2, wherein said controller comprises
20 a waveform conditioning circuit.

6. The appetite suppression device as recited in claim 5, wherein said waveform
conditioning circuit comprises a small signal amplifier.

7. The appetite suppression device as recited in claim 6, wherein said small signal amplifier comprises an operational amplifier circuit.

8. The appetite suppression device as recited in claim 5, wherein said signal conditioning circuit comprises a variable threshold detector circuit.

9. The appetite suppression circuit as recited in claim 8, wherein said variable threshold detector circuit comprises an operational amplifier circuit having a first and a second input, said second input being in communication with the output from a resistive divider network fed by the output of a peak detector circuit, the input to the peak detector circuit being in communication with said first input to said operational amplifier circuit.

10. The appetite suppression device as recited in claim 5, wherein said controller further comprises a waveform generating circuit.

11. The appetite suppression device as recited in claim 2, wherein said controller comprises a waveform generating circuit.

12. The appetite suppression device as recited in claim 11, wherein said waveform generating circuit comprises an astable multivibrator.

13. The appetite suppression device as recited in claim 12, wherein said waveform generating circuit comprises a plurality of astable multivibrators.

14. The appetite suppression device as recited in claim 13, wherein the output of a first astable multivibrator modulates the output of a second astable multivibrator.

15. The appetite suppression device as recited in claim 14, wherein said modulation of the output of said second astable multivibrator by the output of said first astable multivibrator is at a depth greater than 95%.

16. The appetite suppression device as recited in claim 14, wherein the frequency of the output of said first astable multivibrator is variable.

17. The appetite suppression device as recited in claim 16, wherein said frequency of the output of said first astable multivibrator is variable from between approximately four Hertz and approximately 40 Hertz.

18. The appetite suppression device as recited in claim 17, wherein the frequency of the output of said second astable multivibrator is approximately 100 Hertz.

19. The appetite suppression device as recited in claim 2, wherein said controller comprises an output circuit, said output circuit comprising:

a current amplifier; and

a step-up transformer, the output of said current amplifier being in electrical communication with the primary of said step-up transformer.

20. The appetite suppression device as recited in claim 19, wherein the secondary of said step-up transformer is limited in voltage to approximately 24 volts.